newstats bureau of statistics

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Education and Labour Market Activity
— 2011 National Household Survey —

Today, Statistics Canada released information on education and labour market activity from the 2011 National Household Survey. In 2011, the Northwest Territories (NWT) had the second highest participation rate (75.4%) and the third highest employment rate (66.8%) amongst all provinces and territories. At 11.4%, the NWT had the fourth highest unemployment rate behind Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island (Table 1) indicating that people were actively seeking employment.

Table 1 Labour Force Activity
Canada, Provinces & Territories, 2011 National Household Survey

	Participation Rate (%)	Employment Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)
Canada	66.0	60.9	7.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	59.4	50.7	14.6
Prince Edward Island	68.4	60.1	12.1
Nova Scotia	63.1	56.8	10.0
New Brunswick	63.5	56.5	11.0
Quebec	64.6	59.9	7.2
Ontario	65.5	60.1	8.3
Manitoba	67.3	63.1	6.2
Saskatchewan	69.2	65.1	5.9
Alberta	73.2	69.0	5.8
British Columbia	64.6	59.5	7.8
Yukon	77.3	69.7	9.8
Northwest Territories	75.4	66.8	11.4
Nunavut	63.4	52.1	17.9

Table 2 presents labour force activity by community. Despite the high overall employment rate in the NWT, there continues to be wide variations within the NWT. The employment rate ranges from a high of nearly 80% in Yellowknife to about 34% in Fort McPherson. Unemployment is highest in smaller communities such as Whatì and Fort Providence and quite low in Yellowknife and most of the regional centres.

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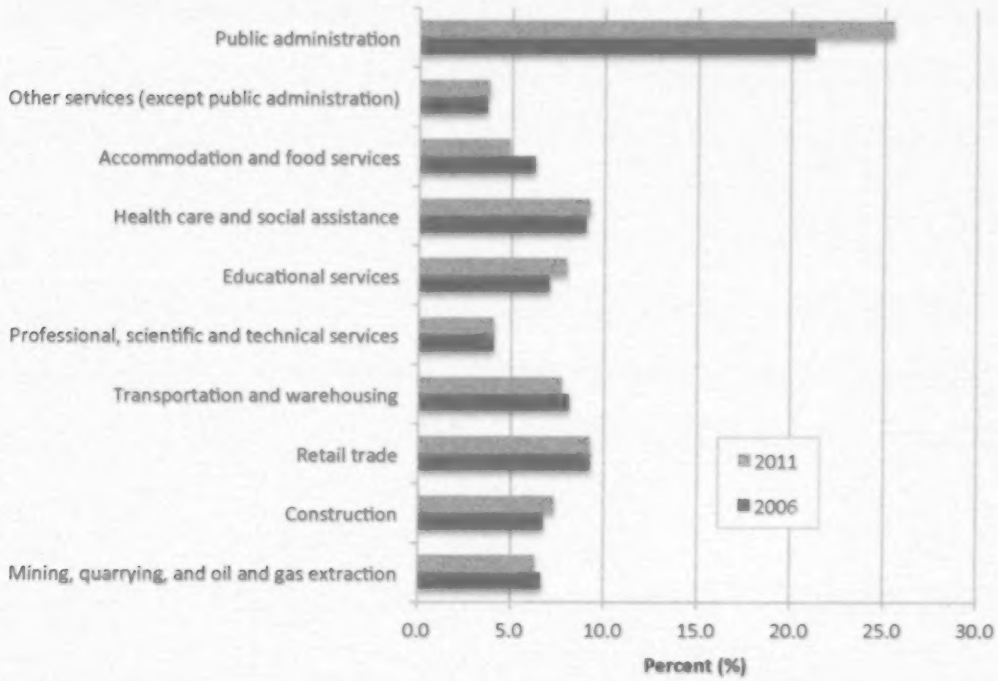
Table 2 Population 15 & Older by Labour Force Activity
Northwest Territories, 2011 National Household Survey

	Pop. 15 & Older	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate (%)	Employment Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)
Northwest Territories	**31,750**	**23,930**	**21,200**	**2,730**	**7,820**	**75.4**	**66.8**	**11.4**
Beaufort Delta	5,035	3,310	2,725	580	1,725	65.7	54.1	17.5
Aklavik	325	150	120	35	170	46.2	36.9	23.3
Fort McPherson	545	275	185	90	265	50.5	33.9	32.7
Inuvik	2,780	2,125	1,840	290	650	76.4	66.2	13.6
Paulatuk	270	145	105	45	125	53.7	38.9	31.0
Sachs Harbour	85	55	55	-	30	64.7	64.7	-
Tsiigehtchic	120	80	55	25	40	66.7	45.8	31.2
Tuktoyaktuk	610	310	230	85	295	50.8	37.7	27.4
Ulukhaktok	310	170	150	25	135	54.8	48.4	14.7
Dehcho	2,465	1,610	1,240	370	855	65.3	50.3	23.0
Fort Liard	340	195	140	55	145	57.4	41.2	28.2
Fort Providence	615	405	230	175	210	65.9	37.4	43.2
Fort Simpson	1,010	735	640	95	280	72.8	63.4	12.9
Hay River Reserve	210	125	90	30	85	59.5	42.9	24.0
Jean Marie River	45	20	20	-	20	44.4	44.4	-
Kakisa	35	20	15	-	20	57.1	42.9	-
Nahanni Butte	70	35	30	10	35	50.0	42.9	28.6
Trout Lake	55	30	30	-	20	54.5	54.5	-
Wrigley	80	40	35	-	40	50.0	43.8	-
Sahtu	1,785	1,230	990	245	555	68.9	55.5	19.9
Colville Lake	90	50	35	15	35	55.6	38.9	30.0
Déline	380	240	165	80	140	63.2	43.4	33.3
Fort Good Hope	390	265	195	65	130	67.9	50.0	24.5
Norman Wells	570	465	430	35	100	81.6	75.4	7.5
Tulita	355	215	170	50	145	60.6	47.9	23.3
South Slave	5,380	3,815	3,420	395	1,565	70.9	63.6	10.4
Enterprise	80	55	50	10	20	68.8	62.5	18.2
Fort Resolution	370	235	170	65	130	63.5	45.9	27.7
Fort Smith	1,575	1,025	955	70	550	65.1	60.6	6.8
Hay River	2,845	2,140	1,960	180	705	75.2	68.9	8.4
Lutselk'e	215	135	85	55	80	62.8	39.5	40.7
Tłı̨chǫ	1,900	1,110	755	350	795	58.4	39.7	31.5
Behchokǫ̀	1,275	680	505	180	595	53.3	39.6	26.5
Gamèti	185	135	80	45	55	73.0	43.2	33.3
Wekweèti	95	65	50	15	25	68.4	52.6	23.1
Whatì	350	230	120	105	120	65.7	34.3	45.7
Yellowknife Area	15,185	12,855	12,070	790	2,330	84.7	79.5	6.1
Detah	155	100	75	25	60	64.5	48.4	25.0
Yellowknife	15,025	12,760	11,990	765	2,265	84.9	79.8	6.0

The variation in employment rates by community can be further explored by looking at employment by select industries (Figure 1). Public administration continues to be the primary industry of employment in the NWT, representing over one quarter of employed persons. Further, the proportion of the population employed in public administration or other government related industries such as education, health care and social assistance has increased since 2006. Geographically, public service positions are generally concentrated in Yellowknife and the regional centres. With the exception of two industries (public administration and management of companies and enterprises) all industries declined in absolute numbers from 2006.

Figure 1 Labour Force by Industry
Northwest Territories, 2011 National Household Survey



Based on the 2011 National Occupation Classification, the majority of the occupations in the NWT are in business, finance & administrative occupations (18.5%), followed closely by occupations in education, law and social, community & government services (17%) and sales & service (16.9%). At nearly 23%, sales & service occupations are the most prevalent in the Canadian job market. (Table 3).

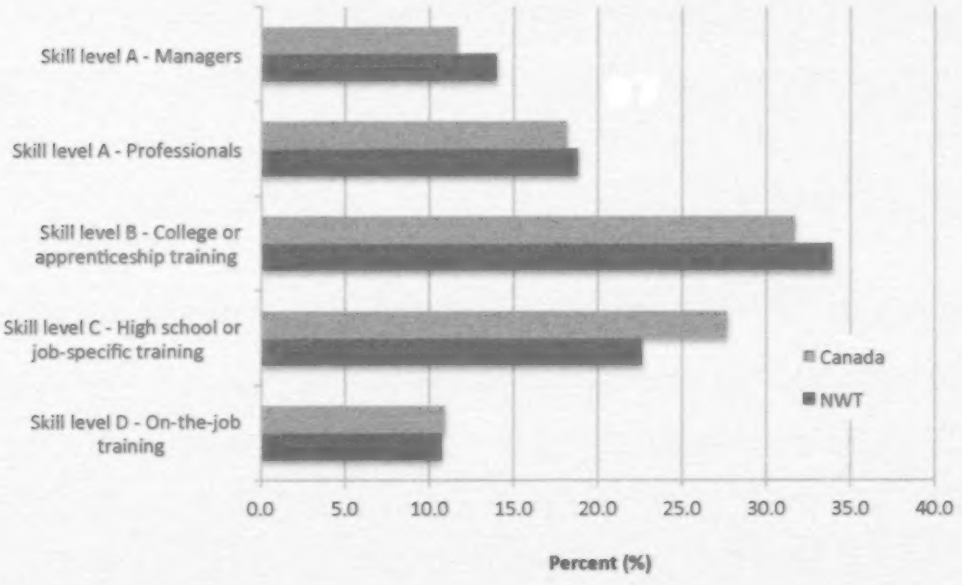
Occupations remain divided along traditional gender lines. For women, the most common occupations were administrative assistants, elementary school & kindergarten teachers and administrative officers. Men work primarily as janitors, caretakers & building superintendents, heavy equipment operators and transport truck drivers.

Table 3 Employed Labour Force by 2011 National Occupation Classification
Northwest Territories, 2011 National Household Survey

National Occupation Classification	Northwest Territories		Canada	
	# of Persons	%	# of Persons	%
Employed Persons	**21,200**	**100.0**	**16,595,035**	**100.0**
Management occupations	2,940	13.9	1,911,930	11.5
Business, finance and administration occupations	3,925	18.5	2,773,710	16.7
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	1,635	7.7	1,188,410	7.2
Health occupations	1,025	4.8	1,078,680	6.5
Occupations in education, law and social, community & gov. services	3,605	17.0	1,986,300	12.0
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	490	2.3	462,470	2.8
Sales and service occupations	3,580	16.9	3,774,055	22.7
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	3,250	15.3	2,337,045	14.1
Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	495	2.3	340,260	2.1
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	260	1.2	742,170	4.5

Occupations may also be classified by the skill level generally required to enter the job. For both the NWT and Canada, the skill levels associated with the current slate of jobs are primarily those that require college or apprenticeship training. In Canada, nearly 39% of employees use skill level C or D in their work while fewer occupations (33%) are at those levels for the NWT. This illustrates the smaller proportion of low skilled positions in the NWT which are generally found in the sales and service occupations. Approximately 33% of occupations in the NWT are management or require a professional degree compared with 30% for Canada.

Figure 2 Employed Persons* by Skill Level
Northwest Territories and Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



*excludes external migrants

With such a demand for skilled labourers, it is important to understand the educational attainment of the working age population in the NWT. Table 4 compares the highest level of schooling across provinces and territories for the population aged 25 – 64. Nearly 30% of those aged 25 – 64 in Ontario have a university degree compared to 23% in the NWT. Those with post-secondary certificates or diplomas including apprenticeships, college education and non-degree university programs represent 37% of the NWT population. At 46%, Nunavut has the highest proportion of persons without any certificates, diplomas or degrees, followed by the NWT (22%).

Table 4 Population Aged 25 – 64 by Highest Certificate, Diploma or Degree Earned
Canada, Provinces & Territories, 2011 National Household Survey

	Pop. Aged 25 - 64	%	No cert., diploma or degree	%	High school cert.	%	Post-secondary cert. or diploma	%	University degree	%
Canada	18,383,920	100.0	2,330,580	12.7	4,270,660	23.2	7,027,260	38.2	4,755,420	25.9
Newfoundland & Labrador	295,240	100.0	60,005	20.3	61,845	20.9	124,840	42.3	48,555	16.4
Prince Edward Island	75,015	100.0	10,630	14.2	18,130	24.2	30,530	40.7	15,720	21.0
Nova Scotia	507,995	100.0	74,220	14.6	110,275	21.7	204,590	40.3	118,905	23.4
New Brunswick	418,835	100.0	70,175	16.8	111,470	26.6	158,330	37.8	78,860	18.8
Quebec	4,370,125	100.0	645,710	14.8	853,170	19.5	1,852,530	42.4	1,018,710	23.3
Ontario	7,018,880	100.0	769,575	11.0	1,702,160	24.3	2,519,090	35.9	2,028,055	28.9
Manitoba	623,940	100.0	107,020	17.2	159,500	25.6	215,850	34.6	141,585	22.7
Saskatchewan	529,475	100.0	81,560	15.4	144,480	27.3	199,495	37.7	103,940	19.6
Alberta	2,035,330	100.0	250,265	12.3	484,725	23.8	779,665	38.3	520,680	25.6
British Columbia	2,451,615	100.0	247,390	10.1	614,585	25.1	921,505	37.6	668,125	27.3
Yukon Territory	20,205	100.0	2,490	12.3	4,160	20.6	8,335	41.3	5,220	25.8
Northwest Territories	**22,985**	**100.0**	**4,960**	**21.6**	**4,390**	**19.1**	**8,420**	**36.6**	**5,210**	**22.7**
Nunavut	14,280	100.0	6,565	46.0	1,775	12.4	4,085	28.6	1,860	13.0

While educational attainment in the NWT has improved over time, it is still quite divergent when examined by ethnicity (Figure 3). Slightly more than 40% of the aboriginal population aged 25 – 64 have not completed high school compared to 8% for non-aboriginal persons. Those with a high school diploma represent 17% of the aboriginal working population, slightly lower than for non-aboriginals. Just over 36% of non-aboriginal and aboriginal persons have some kind of post-secondary certificate or diploma. Approximately 35% of non-aboriginals have a university degree compared to 6% for aboriginal persons.

Figure 3 Population Aged 25 – 64 by Highest Certificate, Diploma or Degree Earned and Ethnicity
Northwest Territories and Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

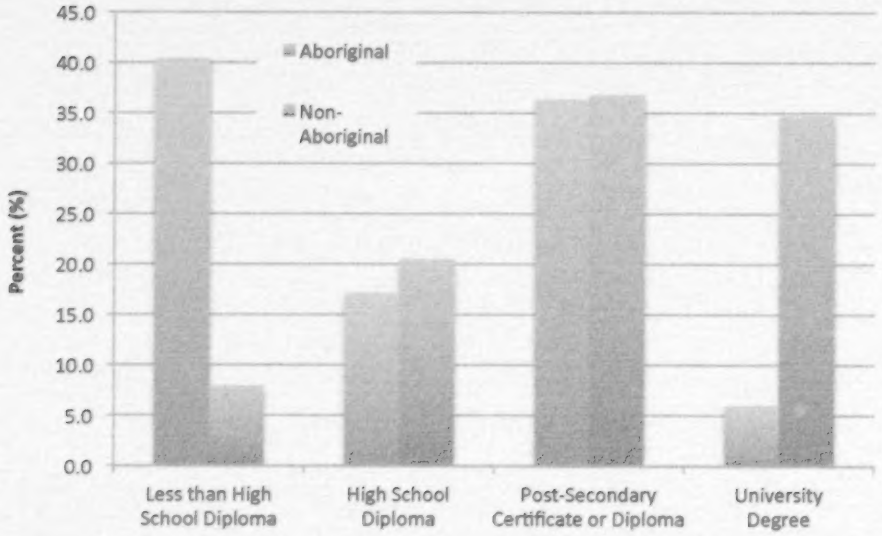
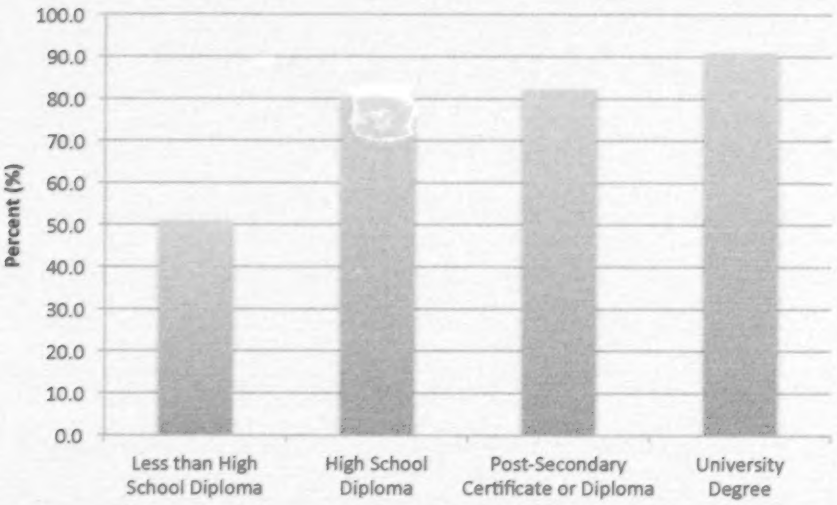


Figure 4 shows employment rates by education levels. As indicated by the graph, higher levels of education are highly correlated to employment rates; as educational attainment increases, employment rates also increase.

Figure 4 Employment Rate by Highest Level of Schooling
Northwest Territories, 2011 National Household Survey



For more detailed tabulations on education and the labour force, please visit www.statsnwt.ca.